DOCUMENT RESUME

ED 411 430 CE 074 752

TITLE	Skill Improvement Training among Currently Employed Workers. Indicator of the Month.
INSTITUTION	National Center for Education Statistics (ED), Washington, DC.
REPORT NO	NCES-97-918
PUB DATE	1997-09-00
NOTE	3p.; Extracted from "The Condition of Education, 1997."
PUB TYPE	Numerical/Quantitative Data (110)
EDRS PRICE	MF01/PC01 Plus Postage.
DESCRIPTORS	Adult Education; Comparative Analysis; *Educational Trends; *Employees; *Job Skills; *On the Job Training; Participation; Predictor Variables; *Skill Development; *Vocational Education

ABSTRACT

Between 1991 and 1995, the percentage of employed workers participating in skill improvement training (SIT) for their current job increased from 30 to 32%. Participation in SIT increased for full- and part-time workers alike. In 1995, participation for a current job was highest among females and individuals in the 35-54 age group. Participation was related to education, occupation, and work status. In both 1991 and 1995, rates of SIT participation were highest among members of the following groups: college graduates; workers in executive, professional, and technical occupations; and individuals employed full time. The 1995 levels of participation in selected occupational groups were as follows: executive, professional, and technical, 49.9% (same as in 1991); sales and administrative support, 29.4% (versus 24.0% in 1991); service, 24.6% (versus 17.8% in 1991); farming, 13.8% (versus 7.0% in 1991); precision production, craft, and repair, 27.4% (versus 21.4% in 1991); and operators, fabricators, and laborers, 19.2% (versus 17.2% in 1991). (This fact sheet contains a table detailing employed workers' levels of participation in skill improvement training by sex, age, educational attainment, and occupation.) (MN)

****
* Reproductions supplied by EDRS are the best that can be made *
* from the original document. *
****

ED 411 430

INDICATOR OF THE MONTH

NATIONAL CENTER FOR EDUCATION STATISTICS

Skill improvement training among currently employed workers

September 1997

In the face of changing technologies, work methodologies, and markets, firms and workers benefit from education or training that upgrades or reorients workers' skills. The proportion of workers participating in skill improvement training for their current job is one indicator of the extent to which firms invest in the re-education of the employed work force. Differences in the proportions of workers who receive training provide an indication of which professions view training as a valuable investment.

- **Between 1991 and 1995, the percentage of employed workers who participated in skill improvement training for their current job rose from 30 to 32 percent, increasing for both full- and part-time workers.**
- **In 1995, females were more likely than males to participate in skill improvement training for their current job.**
- **Individuals aged 35–54 years old were more likely to participate in skill improvement training for their current job than workers in other age groups in 1995.**
- **The percentage of workers who participate in skill improvement training is related to their education, occupation, and work status. In both 1991 and 1995, college graduates, workers in executive, professional, and technical occupations, and those employed full time were more likely than other workers to participate in training to improve their current job skills.**

Percentage of employed individuals who took one or more courses during the previous 12 months to improve their current job skills, by work status and worker characteristics: 1991 and 1995

	All workers		Full-time		Part-time	
Worker characteristics	1991	1995	1991	1995	1991	1995
Total	**29.5**	**32.0**	**33.1**	**35.7**	**16.4**	**20.2**
Sex						
Male	29.3	31.0	32.3	33.0	8.9	12.5
Female	29.7	35.3	34.2	39.5	19.7	23.6
Age[1]						
20–24	20.4	22.3	26.0	25.9	9.5	14.8
25–34	29.7	33.7	32.0	35.5	19.4	22.7
35–44	36.1	38.0	38.4	39.6	23.9	27.8
45–54	29.9	38.1	32.4	39.9	15.8	24.8
55–64	28.4	26.6	32.3	28.2	17.3	19.8
65 and older	18.6	13.2	29.1	15.7	9.2	10.9
Educational attainment						
High school graduate or less	16.6	20.4	18.8	22.4	9.0	11.8
Some postsecondary education	33.5	35.5	39.3	38.6	16.7	24.3
College graduate	48.0	47.0	50.9	49.4	33.3	30.1
Occupation[2]						
Executive, professional, technical	49.9	49.9	51.2	51.4	41.2	39.9
Sales and administrative support	24.0	29.4	28.4	33.0	11.2	15.5
Service	17.8	24.6	22.4	28.9	12.0	16.7
Farming	7.0	13.8	7.3	15.2	4.0	7.1
Precision production, craft, and repair	21.4	27.4	22.4	29.5	9.9	2.5
Operators, fabricators, laborers	19.2	17.2	21.7	17.8	8.0	10.8

[1] Age as of December 31, 1990 for 1991 data, and as of December 31, 1994 for 1995 data.

[2] If respondent had more than one job, "occupation" was based on the job reported first.

NOTE: The survey questions were constructed differently in 1995. However, the response categories used in this analysis were similar to those used in the 1991 survey.

SOURCE: U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics, National Household Education Survey, 1991 and 1995 (Adult Education Component).

CE 074 752

U.S. Department of Education

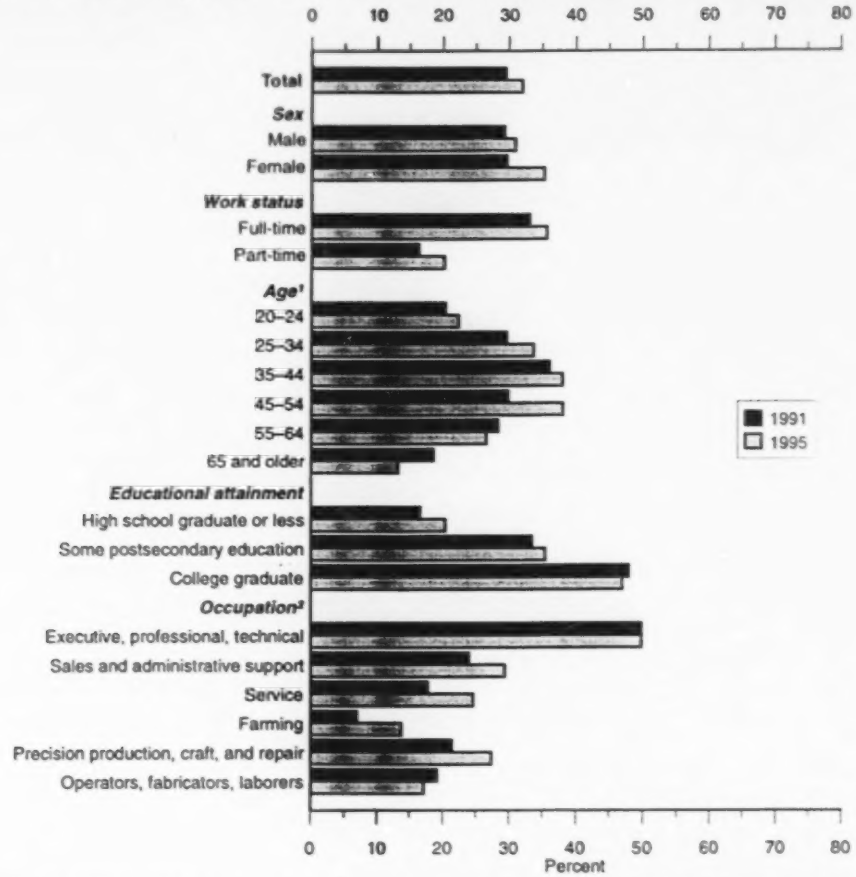
Office of Educational Research and Improvement

NCES 97-918

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
Office of Educational Research and Improvement
EDUCATIONAL RESOURCES INFORMATION CENTER (ERIC)
This document has been reproduced as received from the person or organization originating it.
Minor changes have been made to improve reproduction quality.
Points of view or opinions stated in this document do not necessarily represent official OERI position or policy.

BEST COPY AVAILABLE

Percentage of employed individuals who took one or more courses during the previous 12 months to improve their current job skills, by work status and worker characteristics: 1991 and 1995



[1] Age as of December 31, 1990 for 1991 data, and as of December 31, 1994 for 1995 data.

[2] If respondent had more than one job, "occupation" was based on the job reported first.

NOTE: Survey questions were constructed differently in 1995. However, the response categories used in this analysis were similar to those used in the 1991 survey.

SOURCE: U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics, National Household Education Survey, 1991 and 1995 (Adult Education Component).

This indicator is one of 60 from *The Condition of Education 1997*. It is in the public domain and may be reproduced without permission. Suggested citation: U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics, *The Condition of Education 1997*, NCES 97-388, by Thomas M. Smith, Beth Aronstamm Young, Yupin Bae, Susan P. Choy, and Nabeel Alsalam. Washington, D.C.: U.S. Government Printing Office. To obtain a copy of the full volume of *The Condition of Education*, contact the National Education Data Resource Center on (703) 845-3151 (E-mail: nedrc@inet.ed.gov). This title is also available on the Internet at http://www.ed.gov/NCES/pubs/ce.

United States
Department of Education
Washington, DC 20208–5650

Official Business
Penalty for Private Use, $300

Postage and Fees Paid
U.S. Department of Education
Permit No. G–17

FIRST CLASS